

Fellowship

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November 13, 1974

Daniel Ellsberg
10 Hilliard St.,
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Dear Dan:

We had a visit from Robert not too long ago--extremely pleasant and encouraging. We have a truly extraordinary son.

I'm writing now to ask whether you might write something for a special joint issue of WIN and Fellowship we are putting out in January--an issue on pacifism. Maris and I have, rather light-heartedly, been referring to it as an "expose" of pacifism, but really it's meant to be something both the WRL and FOR can use as a modest tool of turning people on to pacifism.

Rather than publishing two or three discursive, philosophical "heavy" articles on the subject, we've settled instead on a number of brief pieces, either answering the question, "Why are you a pacifist?", or "How did you become a pacifist?"

We're asking a number of people to choose one question or the other and to try to write, in a page or two or three, a very informal, indeed letter-like response. I know how busy you are, of course, but we all hope you can be one of the respondents. What you have to say would be, I think, both inspiring and clarifying to almost any stranger to pacifism, and renewing to many who think of themselves as pacifists.


We're asking quite a few friends to help with this, including Dorothy Day, Jim Douglass, Dan Berrigan, Grace Paley, Art Waskow, Barbara Deming, Alan Ginsberg, Scott Kennedy, Joan Baez, Ira Sandperl, Ann Davidon, Julius Lester, Martha Tranquilli, Thich Nhat Hanh, Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta and a number of others. I don't know how many will actually be able to respond, but all of us working on this are particularly hopeful that you will be among them.

cont.

I'm just back from an exciting but exhausting trip in Israel and the West Bank and am up to my ears in a special issue of Fellowship on the Middle East, which will be coming out in early December. Are you receiving copies of the magazine, by the way? Enclosed are the last couple of issues, in case you haven't seen them. I think you might particularly enjoy the interview with Al Hassler in the September issue.

Do you have any plans to be in the New York area? If so, I wonder whether you might consider including in your schedule a meeting with the FOR staff? There are a number of things people here would enjoy talking over with you, and I personally would like to give you a chance to meet some of my co-workers--a rather extraordinary community that has passed through a good many fires.

Love both to Mary and yourself,



Jim Forest

JF:d
Enclosures

PS: We need your contribution for our special Winship issue by December 15th, if that is possible.

JF